

FREDITORIAL:

And so it goes...
Since last fall, as you know, we have been in the process of planning for a major renovation of your church. Initially our parish administration committee compiled a list of physical needs that must be addressed, ranging from airconditioning to washroom accessibility. A year ago we engaged Michael Boreskie as our architect to help sort through these various issues. Last November we held a series of town hall meetings where our parish might properly articulate its vision of a renewed worship space. A building committee was formed and with our architect various proposals were looked at. This past Tuesday, after many meetings and much discussion, our building committee accepted a conceptual design and recommended that we move to the next phase - the schematic detailing of this design. Several important issues have been dealt with in this proposed design. It addresses our physical problems and, even more importantly, it brings our worship space into the norms for liturgy called for by the current Church. At present we are doing our best to celebrate good liturgy which engages everyone in "full, conscious, and active participation" but this is a real challenge in a building designed for a liturgy now foreign to most of us. Imagine celebrating mass in an environment that fully supports the liturgy rather than in one that creates barriers to it, as our building now does.

Let me address certain misconceptions that I believe might be circulation within our parish community. There are some who state categorically that nothing has to be done. I wish that were true. The easiest path in life is to do nothing. But we do not have this choice. If we do nothing we ignore real and serious issues facing our parish church. This would be irresponsible on our part and morally reprehensible.

Others are stating that we are opting for a "Lexus" when all we need is a "Hyundai Elantra". Would that were true as well! There is nothing "luxurious" in the proposed design. It includes aspects that most other churches take for granted" accessible washrooms, a gathering space, airconditioning and a proper airflow system, and, imagine this luxury, a place to hang up your coat! At this stage of the game we do not know the price of this renovation. To determine that price we need to move to the schematic design phase.

There are some in our parish who have stated that the design is a "done deal". They have ignored the fact that several consultations have taken place. Several options and proposals have been considered by the building committee. After much dialogue and debate over the past months our building committee is now comfortable with our architect's proposed design and in fact accepted it unanimously. We are asking you to both believe and to trust in your fellow parishioners who only have the parish's best interests in mind in accepting this proposal. They have sacrificed enormously of themselves in doing this work on our behalf and will continue to work with our architect during the coming months. They are doing their utmost to apply due diligence to this project and ask for your trust and your open mind.

Perhaps the greatest challenge we face is the "fear factor". There are those who state our parish community is not up to the financial challenge that this renovation presents. I have been pastor of this parish for nine years. I believe our parish is one of the most generous in the archdiocese. How is it that other parishes and churches in our area have been able to build or renovate their gathering places? Is not our parish as generous as others? To state that we could not support this badly needed renovation of our 43 year old complex shows little faith in our community. I hold an opposite view. I believe that St. Bernadette is above all a faith-filled community. We have a tremendous faith in our God. Perhaps we need a little more faith in one another.

The past week our parish celebrated the funeral for Bernard Painchaud, brother of Marcel Painchaud. Bernard's wife is an active member of Gordon King Memorial United Church. We received the following e-mail:

Father Fred and the members of St. Bernadette Parish,

I want to thank you for your hospitality to the members of various United Churches, especially Gordon-King folk. I know they felt a part of a community today.

I also wanted to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to take part in today's funeral. It meant a lot to May and those from Gordon-King. It also meant a lot to me. In a time when denominational boundaries can become walls or obstacles to community, it is so refreshing to see that we can be together in authentic community.

So, again, thank you; and I pray that you and your congregation may continue to experience the presence of the Holy, and continue to show that experience in genuine acts of care for others.

*God bless you,
Pastor Troy*

PARISH FAMILY

In Memoriam
Pietro Cefali,
father of Lisa Grist
Bernard (Barney) Painchaud,
brother of Marcel Painchaud
Leda Messner,
sister-in-law of Rita Halhead
Anne Wong,
mother of Pearl (Lloyd) Wong
and Sylvanna (Warren) Palmer

Jesus spoke to the people saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life". John 8:12.

Please Remember Our Sick

In Your Prayers

Ester Koropatnick, Doreen Janssens,
Janette Dufault, Patrick Donahue, Tammy Kellar, Kelly Lys, Joe Donahue, Donna Desmarais,
Sophie August, Morris Seesahai,
Jeffrey Clearwater, George Duguay,
David Bruneau, Marianne Purcha,
Louise Carriere, Kay White, Marie Richard, Janice Lamb, Enid Durward, Effie Pike,
Leslie Meunier, Ruth Lafave, Dianne Demarcke, Bob Regent, Ken Davidson, Kenneth North, Sharon White, Sheila Verrier, Annette Higham, Ron Manaigne, Jerry Ste Marie, Geraldine Melnyk

We Welcome Through The Waters of Baptism

Miguel Palud

Please Pray For Our Couples

Preparing For Marriage

Angela Ricard & James Nickles
Erin Sharp & Alan Schnerch
Megan St Laurent & David Carroll
Teresa Schamber & Paul Broadfoot
Christine Lambert & Ryan Zahynacz
Lorine Deserranno & Vinko Dzeba
Michelle Préjet & Kirk Newcombe
Julie Lidgett & Tyler Black
Jackie Prieur & Steven McMahan
Andrea Leslie & Sergio Almeida
Debra Chmielowski & Martin Langhan

Next Week's Readings

Genesis 14:18-20 Psalm 110
1 Corinthians 11:23-26 Luke 9:11-17

PARISH ACTIVITIES

LITURGY

Liturgical Ministry during the summer

We do not schedule ministers during the months of July and August because too many are away but we still need you. When you are here for mass during these months please volunteer to serve in your ministry. Arrive early and go to the vestry to sign-in and do not hesitate to volunteer often. The mass coordinators continue serving throughout the summer and really need help getting enough people for all the tasks. Please support them and volunteer. Thank you for your ongoing support of the prayer of the community.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Confirmation/First Communion Last Session for Grade 2 Child/Parent/Sponsor in the parish centre upper level on Monday 7 June, 6:30pm. This will be a time to reflect on our celebration of the sacraments, to party, and to look ahead.

CATECHISM

Remember to register your children for next year.

You may register by appointment. Please call Judy at 255-1951 ext 23. Early registration will be accepted until 30 June. There is a \$10.00 late registration fee after this date. A cancellation fee of \$ 25.00 will be assessed after 1 September 2004.

Early Fees
\$50.00 per child or \$75.00 per family

Late Fees
\$60.00 per child or \$85.00 per family

The above fees are for St. Bernadette registered envelope users.

All others: \$100.00 per family.

We will be needing catechists and helpers for the fall of 2004. Please consider this very rewarding ministry. Call Judy at 255-1951 ext 23.

MOM/DAD & ME meet every Tuesday morning from 10:00 - 11:30am in the parish centre lower level. This is a time of fun and socializing. Grandparents are welcome too!

On Tuesday 15 June we will have our last meeting before the summer break, at Vermillion Park, weather permitting, (same time). If the weather is poor we will meet as usual in the parish centre. We will resume in the fall, Tuesday 14 September in the parish centre lower level.

POST-DATED CHEQUES Spring is here! This can only mean that a lot of parishioners will be heading to their summer cottages. We are encouraged by the number of parishioners who leave post-dated cheques with us when they spend weekends away. This helps with our annual financial shortfall during the summer. **Please consider this method of stewardship for the whole year, if you are not already doing so.**

MASS INTENTIONS Due to the large number of mass requests we receive, periodically we find it necessary to send some away, along with the mass stipend. These are sent to priests in other countries where they do not have many mass requests. Please see the bulletin board for the list of intentions which were mailed away this week.

OUR PLACE/CHEZ NOUS thanks everyone who donated items throughout the year. We will call upon your generous support again in the fall. Our wooden bowl remains in the church entrance all year for cash donations to Chez Nous.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE WINDUP

Thursday 10 June: Mass at 9:00am followed by breakfast at the Windsor Park Inn. Confirmation required by 7 June. Contact Margaret Bozek, 253-8505 or Carole Subteln, 253-9743.

"AN INVITATION TO ALL" A Traveling Icon representing a devotion close to the heart of the Holy Father will be honored on Tuesday 8 June 7:30pm in the church. This Divine Mercy Hour of Prayer is sponsored by the Windsor Park Council Knights of Columbus. Everyone is invited to attend.

OUT & ABOUT

Celebration of the Gospel of Life Monday 7 June 7:00pm at St. Boniface Cathedral. All are invited to partake in this event by gathering at the front of the Cathedral, and then processing to the League for Life Monument where we will remember the victims of abortion by reciting the Rosary. We will then return to the Cathedral for a 7:30pm mass with Archbishop Emilius Goulet presiding.

The Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ His Grace, Archbishop Emilius Goulet, P.S.S., invites all the urban English and French speaking parishes to join him in the celebration of the Eucharist on Thursday 10 June 7:00pm at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Transcona for this special Solemnity. A *Corpus Christi* procession will follow and make its way to the neighboring church of Notre-Dame-de l'Assomption for the Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction.

Vacant Position Religious Education Coordinator If you have experience in religious education at the parish level and are ready to take on a new challenge, we would like to hear from you. Candidates applying should have excellent public relations, communication and organizational skills. Computer skills (Microsoft Word & Publisher) would be an asset. The main role of the diocesan religious education coordinator is to support parish religious education coordinators of our archdiocese (includes formation of these coordinators). Interested candidates are asked to submit their curriculum vitae with three references directly to Archbishop Goulet's office: 151 Cathédrale Ave, Winnipeg MB, R2H 0H6.